

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 EPA-04 AID-05 OES-06

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /053 W

-----201157Z 016670 /11

R 201050Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7539

USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

USINT BAGHDAD

UNCLAS SECTIN 1 OF 2 KUWAIT 1450

MANAMA FOR DODSON

USDOC FOR BIC/CAGNE-HALE

ATHENS FOR KINNEAR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP KU

SUBJECT: PROPOSED TECHNICAL MISSION/SEMINAR ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

REF: (A) STATE 56092, (B) KUWAIT 1359 (NOTAL), (C) MANAMA 617

1. SUMMARY. DISCUSSIONS WITH KUWAIT INSTITUTE FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (KISR), ONLY LIKELY SPONSOR FOR EVENT, INDICATES THAT WHILE KISR MIGHT BE WILLING TO SPONSOR TECHNICAL PRESENTATION, IT IS HESITANT TO SPONSOR EVENT WITH COMMERCIAL ORIENTATION. IF IT DOES, OCTOBER/NOVEMBER  
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BETTER THAN MAY, AS KISR'S ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITY WILL BE ON FIRMER FOOTING BY THEN. CONFLICT WITH VISIT OF FOOD TEAM FOLLOWING TEHRAN FOOD FAIR IN EARLY JUNE PRECLUDES EMBASSY ACCEPTING EVENT IN MAY 21-JUNE 2 TIME FRAME PROPOSED. END SUMMARY.

2. PROPOSAL FOR A TECHNICAL MISSION/SEMINAR ON ENVIRON-

MENTAL CONTROL DESIGNED TO PROMOTE SALES BY US FIRMS IS EXCELLENT ONE. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT KUWAITI INTEREST IN AND RECEPTIVITY TO SUCH TECHNICAL SALES SEMINAR WOULD BE GOOD IF MISSION PROPERLY TIMED AND PRESENTED WITH ADEQUATE PREPARATION. OUR REVIEW FOLLOWED LINE OF QUESTIONS CONTAINED PARA 5 REF A TO WHICH FOLLOWING RESPONSES ARE KEYED:

- 1) KISR DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DR. OMAR, WAS HESITANT TO COMMIT HIMSELF TO KISR SPONSORSHIP AT THIS TIME. ONCE SATISFACTORY DATES (PREFERABLY LATE FALL) ARRANGED WE CAN DISCUSS IDEAS FURTHER WITH KISR.
- 3) GOK INTEREST CURRENTLY CENTERS ON POLLUTION OF MARINE ENVIRONMENT AS A RESULT OF GROWING URBANIZATION AND PETROLEUM-RELATED INDUSTRIAL AND TRANSPORT ACTIVITIES. AIR POLLUTION WILL BE OF INCREASING INTEREST, DUE TO CONTINUED MOTOR VEHICLE EXPANSION. THERE ARE NOW OVER 333,000 REGISTERED AUTOS IN KUWAIT, ONE FOR EVERY THREE PEOPLE IN COUNTRY. ALSO USE OF HIGH-SULPHUR FUEL OIL IN PLACE OF NATURAL GAS IN PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC POWER WILL CAUSE ADDITIONAL POLLUTION.
- 4) EMBASSY DOUBTS ABILITY OF SAUDI EVENT TO ATTRACT MANY PEOPLE FROM KUWAIT. POSSIBLE KISR AND GOK REPS WOULD BE WILLING TO ATTEND, ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE COMPANIES IS DOUBTFUL.
- 5) OTHER POSSIBLE SPONSORS INCLUDE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTRY OF HEALTH, AND WHUAIBA AREA AUTHORITY (LATTER IS AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR VARIOUS SERVICES, INCLUDING POLLUTION CONTROL, FOR PROJECTS LOCATED IN SHUAIBA INDUSTRIAL AREA). THESE AGENCIE PRESENT SAME PROBLEM AS KISR: RELUCTANCE OF GOVERNMENT BODIES TO SPONSOR A COMMERCIAL EVENT. BECAUSE UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THIS, WE WERE NOT ABLE OBTAIN GOK MINISTRY SPONSORSHIP FOR RECENT EDP TECHNICAL SALES SEMINAR. KISR OFFERS SOME POSSIBILITY IN THAT, ALTHOUGH FUNDED BY GOK, IT IS SEMI-AUTONOMOUS. OTHER AGENCIES MENTIONED ABOVE ARE ALL PART OF GOK.

- 6) IF IT WERE DECIDED TO SPONSOR SEMINAR, KISR COULD PROVIDE MEETING ROOM AND OTHER FACILITIES, BUT NOT FUNDING. SEMINAR WOULD HAVE TO BE FUNDED ON SAME BASIS AS OTHER USDOC TRADE EVENTS WITH PAYMENT BY PARTICIPANTS.
- 7) THURSDAY-FRIDAY ARE LOCAL HOLIDAYS HERE. MAY 30 IS MEMORIAL DAY, US HOLIDAY. THERE ARE NO LOCAL HOLIDAYS DURING MAY 21-JUNE2, BUT SEE PARA 3 BELOW.

3. EMBASSY TRADE EVENT SCHEDULE NOW CALLS FOR VISIT ON JUNE 3-5 OF USDA/FAS SPONSORED FOOD TEAM FOLLOWING US FOOD SHOW IN TEHRAN. EMBASSY NEEDS AT LEAST THREE WEEKS TO PREPARE APPOINTMENTS, RECEPTION, ETC. FOR THIS GROUP. THERE IS JUST ENOUGH TIME FOR THIS FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF MAY 2-5 PETROCHEMICAL SPECIALIEZED

TRADE MISSION. EMBASSY WOULD NOT THEREFORE BE ABLE TO  
SUPPORT ANOTHER TRADE MISSION IN MAY 21-JUNE 2 PERIOD  
PROPOSED. ALSO, WE DOUBT THAT THERE IS SUFFICIENT TIME FOR  
ADVANCE WORK, ESPECIALLY PRINTING AND TRANSMISSION OF  
BROCHURES. IT IS EMBASSY EXPERIENCE THAT TRANSMISSION  
REQUIRES AT LEAST 2-3 WEEKS. LOCAL PRINTING UNACCEPTABLE.  
BROCHURES ARE INDESPENSABLE FOR PROMOTIONAL WORK, PARTICULARLY IN APPOINTMENT SCHEDULING

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## Message Attributes

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